

# Canberra Space Centre Worksheet

# Planetary Encounters

**Task 1:** Choose a planet and list five features that describe it.

Planet:

- 1.Colour:
- 2.Surface:
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Now describe or draw an alien that would live on this planet, suited to the conditions you wrote above.

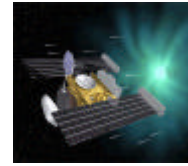
**Task 4:** Below is a list of solar system objects and different types of spacecraft used for exploration. Draw a line between the spacecraft and planet that would be best to explore it. Remember there may be more than one way to explore each object.



Lander  
(Pathfinder)



Probe  
(DS2)



Sampler  
(Stardust)



Orbiter  
(Galileo)

**Task 2:** Calculate your age on the *How old are you?* exhibit for the planets listed below.



EARTH

years



VENUS

years



MARS

years



SATURN

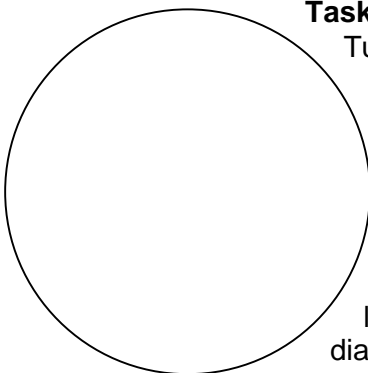
years



NEPTUNE

months

**Task 3:** Use the Turbulent Orb exhibit to create stormy patterns within the sphere. Observe the patterns in each layer and sketch what they look like in the diagram below.



Saturn



Mars



Comet

**Task 5:** Mark on the diagram below the relative positions of Venus, Earth and Mars. Using the scale shown below and a ruler, calculate the distance between each planet.

